



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

MIKE MCCARTNEY
DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of
MIKE MCCARTNEY
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
**SENATE COMMITTEES ON
ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
and
HIGHER EDUCATION**

Monday, February 3, 2020
2:45PM
State Capitol, Conference Room #414

In consideration of
SB2562
**RELATING TO THE PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL SPACE CENTER FOR
EXPLORATION SYSTEMS.**

Chairs Wakai and Kim, Vice Chairs Taniguchi and Kidani, and members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) appreciates the intent and provides comments for SB 2331, which establishes the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES) within DBEDT for administration purposes. The measure amends the composition of the board of directors of PISCES, creates six exempt positions, and transfers the rights, powers, functions, and duties of the employees to DBEDT.

DBEDT supports the bill, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact the priorities indicated in our Executive Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Pacific International
Space Center for
Exploration Systems

Statement of
Rodrigo Romo
Program Director
Pacific International Space Center for Explorations Systems (PISCES),
Before the
Committee on Energy, Economic Development & Tourism
And
Committee on Higher Education
Monday, February 3rd @ 14:45
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

In consideration of
SB2562
**RELATING TO THE PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL SPACE CENTER FOR EXPLORATION
SYSTEMS**

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Taniguchi, Chair Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the Committees.

PISCES appreciates the intent of SB2546 and offers the following comments:

PISCES is entering a transition period in which it will need to make some modifications to move from RCUH contract based operations into being an attached agency of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT). This bill makes the necessary adjustments and modifications that will make this possible and allow the program to continue to operate into the future.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer comments.

Rodrigo Romo.

SB-2562

Submitted on: 1/30/2020 1:28:25 PM

Testimony for EET on 2/3/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph Minafra	Testifying for NASA Solar System Exploration Research VI	Support	No

Comments:

I Joseph Minafra the LEAD of Innovation and Technical Partnerships at the NASA Solar System Exploration Research Virtual Institute continue to support the PISCES program in bill HB1912 that makes the necessary modifications to ensure PISCES can continue after this transition year. For the last few years I have become involved in robotics education for the youth in Hawaii thru the help of PISCES and would like to maintain the job growth and technical job opportunities the future youth can aspire and participate because of PISCES.

SB-2562

Submitted on: 1/31/2020 11:33:38 AM

Testimony for EET on 2/3/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Judi Morris	Testifying for Oceanit Laboratories, Inc.	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2562

Submitted on: 2/1/2020 11:48:01 AM

Testimony for EET on 2/3/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Angel Abbud-Madrid	Testifying for Colorado School of Mines	Support	No

Comments:

The Center for Space Resources at the Colorado School of Mines supports the PISCES program and this bill, which makes the necessary modifications to ensure the continuation of the program after this transition year. As leaders of the field of Space Resources, we can testify that the entire space community (NASA, research institutions, and the space private sector) is counting on Hawaii and PISCES to help us develop, test, and validate the equipment that will soon be sent to the Moon, Mars, and asteroids to extract the necessary resources to fuel the next wave of exploration and the future space economy.

SB-2562

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 3:31:09 PM

Testimony for EET on 2/3/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stewart Hunter	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the PISCES program and this bill. Please ensure this vital program continues. Mahalo, Stewart Hunter

SB-2562

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 9:23:55 PM

Testimony for EET on 2/3/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Theodore DeRego	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill. PISCES is a valuable resource for the Big Island community. They provide STEM opportunities for high school and UH students. The hands-on experience I gained while working for PISCES contributed directly to me being able to get a job as a software engineer at Google shortly after graduating from UH Hilo. I hope to see them continue to produce fledgling engineers.

SB-2562

Submitted on: 1/30/2020 11:20:47 AM

Testimony for EET on 2/3/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
austen drake	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the PISCES program and this bill makes the necessary modifications to ensure its continuation after this transition year, therefore I support this bill

SB-2562

Submitted on: 1/30/2020 1:30:40 PM

Testimony for EET on 2/3/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kimberly Stratton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support the PISCES program. They do a lot of wonderful STEM outreach and other efforts to help prepare local Hawaiian students for jobs in various technology fields. I've been a mentor and guest speaker at their STARS program and have seen firsthand what an amazing job this organization is doing to better the lives of the local community. I fully support any bill that supports this organization.

Kimberly Stratton

SB-2562

Submitted on: 2/2/2020 9:36:50 AM

Testimony for EET on 2/3/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dr. Luke Flynn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dr. Luke Flynn

94-1115 Hahana Street

Waipahu, HI 96797

Dear Members of the 30th Hawaii State Legislature:

I am writing to express my strong **SUPPORT** for **SB2562 – Relating to Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems.**

In 1992, I graduated from the University of Hawaii at Manoa with a PhD in Geology & Geophysics. I have lived in Hawaii for 34 years and raised two children here who also graduated from UH. I am now a professor in the Hawaii Institute of Geophysics and Planetology (HIGP). Throughout my research career, I have managed 26 external grants and contracts worth approximately \$50M or an average of \$1.9M/year since graduation. A very high proportion of these funds are used to support faculty co-Investigators, staff, and students that have all supported the State economy. Since 2002, I have been the Director of the NASA Hawaii Space Grant Consortium (HSGC) and the NASA Hawaii EPSCoR Programs. The function of HSGC is to provide STEM education and NASA workforce development opportunities in Hawaii. The function of NASA Hawaii EPSCoR is to expand aerospace research infrastructure within the State. Finally, since 2007, I have been the Director of the Hawaii Space Flight Laboratory (HSFL). HSFL's objective is to design, build, test, launch, and operate small spacecraft from the Hawaiian Islands. On November 3, 2015, HSFL's first launch from the Pacific Missile Range Facility did not achieve orbit. However, there were a lot of successes. The rail launch system worked perfectly. The world took notice that Hawaii can become a space-faring State, and the world took notice that our local students built a satellite that passed all tests for space flight.

The PISCES program provides opportunities for business development and workforce training in space applications. The PISCES program is especially important for the Big Island, and I have worked and continue to work with PISCES on space-related opportunities for the State of Hawaii. I strongly support the PISCES program, and this bill makes the necessary modifications to ensure its continuation after this transition year. I strongly support this bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Dr. Luke Flynn

SB-2562

Submitted on: 1/31/2020 10:57:49 PM

Testimony for EET on 2/3/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel Solemsaas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the PISCES program and this bill makes the necessary modifications to ensure its continuation after this transition year, therefore I support this bill.